



# NEWS

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### **GRANT FUNDS USED TO EXPEDITE COLLISION REPORTING**

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Every year in California, hundreds of thousands of collisions occur, resulting in an equal number of crash reports by various law enforcement agencies throughout the state. The collision reports are then submitted to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) who maintains the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records Systems (SWITRS). This system is a traffic management oversight system which provides statistical reports of traffic collisions to California law enforcement and government agencies, federal government agencies and the public.

With the help of federal funding, the CHP has embarked on a two-year project to make the system more accessible to the state's allied agencies and the public. This grant is entitled the "Allied Agencies Collision Reporting (AACR) SWITRS Project."

"This project will upgrade the SWITRS system to allow for efficient and effective electronic submission of collision reports by the CHP and other law enforcement agencies," said CHP Commissioner Joe Farrow.

In an effort to meet the goals established for this project, the CHP will obtain hardware and consulting services to provide a statewide, external and internal SWITRS operating system that efficiently and effectively automates the request from and responses to CHP and Allied Agencies for SWITRS data and reporting.

The AACR SWITRS project addresses the lag of input time by creating an automated process and reducing a backlog of reports waiting to be entered into the system. The project will also address the accuracy of the data provided by the SWITRS system; a set of web services will be built to provide an error management process which ensures accurate and complete data are input into the SWITRS database.

The SWITRS system was established in 1972. It includes an open database and provides users reports within a 24-hour period. SWITRS reports for 2001 – 2008 are available on the CHP's internet website: [www.chp.ca.gov](http://www.chp.ca.gov).

Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

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